



Aging & Disability Resource Center
1541 Annex Road
Jefferson, WI 53549
920-674-8734

Memory Care Connections...

**Serving persons with dementia in Jefferson County
and their caregivers.**



**"A moment
of joy may
come when
you least
expect it."**

**-Joy Brackey
Creating
Moments of
Joy**

Dementia Care Specialist Update

***"Challenging the mind-set
of despair and offering a
more hopeful vision"***



**Sue Konkell,
Jefferson
County
Dementia
Care
Specialist**

In this newsletter, you will see all the things that are going on in Jefferson County to improve early diagnosis and coordination of care treatment for those with dementia and their caregivers. What you may not be aware of is the compassion that motivates the focused collaborations and the desire to inspire hope.

The resources and services offered in Jefferson County are providing support to those with dementia and their caregivers but we are also assisting them to find where the hope is.

The new cultural trend towards patient centered care is facilitating caregivers to savor moments of joy. It is teaching us all how to let go of our expectations and enter the world of the person with dementia to have moments that leave both of us with the feelings of connection and to discover the gifts already in our midst.



The Alzheimer's Association estimates that about 453 people Aged 65+ that live alone in Jefferson County have been diagnosed with dementia. If you have concerns about a neighbor or a loved one, please call the Aging and Disability Resource center at 920-674-8734; we can check on their safety and well-being.

**Special events in
Jefferson County
Dementia care**

**Tasks groups currently
meeting between
October and May
2014. See details in
this newsletter.
All are welcome.**

***"Early onset Alzheimer's
is probably not what
you had planned for
this time in your life."***

***But you can live a
meaningful and
productive life.***

**Visit [www.alz.org/-
ihave-alz/if-you-have
-younger-onset-
alzheimers.asp](http://www.alz.org/-ihave-alz/if-you-have-younger-onset-alzheimers.asp)**

***Alzheimer's is not just
a disease of old age.***

***Younger-onset (also
known as early-onset)***

***Alzheimer's affects
people younger than
age 65.***

***Nearly 4 percent of
the more than 5 million
Americans with
Alzheimer's have
younger-onset.***



Task Groups formed mobilizing local partnerships to create a Dementia Capable Jefferson County

Response to the Dementia Summit held on August 20, 2013 at Fort Atkinson Memorial Hospital by the Jefferson County ADRC and the Alzheimer's Association netted 98 interested community members. All those present, in some way, had experience and/or interest in the disease of dementia.

The summit provided an opportunity to discuss the gaps in services needed by those with dementia and their caregivers and to plan how to work together to make Jefferson County and its local communities "Dementia Capable" (a community that builds a framework that supports and takes responsibility for enlarging the beneficial effect of services for persons with dementia and their caregivers)

The tasks groups that were formed are:

- Public Awareness of Dementia
- Sheriff Registry and Wandering Issues
- Emergency Placement Facilities
- Care Transition Management
- Treat in Place Team
- Dementia Friendly Businesses
- Defining Quality for Dementia Facilities
- Promoting Early Detection
- Person Centered Dementia Care Education

All our welcome in these task groups! If you have questions, please call 920-675-4035.



Dementia Friendly Businesses

Three downtown Fort Atkinson businesses have received their "Dementia Friendly Business" certificates for having their employees complete training on being dementia friendly and for evaluating their environments to be easier to navigate for those with dementia.

On September 26th, Dwight Foster Library, Tuttle's Pharmacy, and Black Hawk Senior Residence officially became Dementia Friendly Businesses!

Thank you Fort Atkinson Business Community for enabling those with dementia to live as independently as possible and to continue to be a part of their community!

Persons with dementia sometimes do or say something over and over – like repeating a word, questions or activity - or undo something that has just been finished.

In most cases, he or she is probably looking for comfort, security, and familiarity. Asking questions repeatedly may be trying to express a specific concern, ask for help, or cope with frustration, anxiety, or insecurity.

County-Wide Registry

Purpose: To help identify those individuals at risk of intervention by law enforcement due to wandering episodes or challenging behaviors. The system is accessible to law enforcement jurisdictions across the county 24/7 and provides them with identifying information and techniques for interacting with the person who is diagnosed.

You may register your loved one with the County Sheriff's department by calling Sue Konkel, Dementia Care Specialist at 920-675-4035.

This program is currently being expanded by a task group meeting to bring it up to date with all the latest technologies. Also, the Sheriff's Department is adding "Project Lifesaver" capabilities in November 2013.